

AMERICAN EMBASSY PRETORIA VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

VA 09-35

April 7, 2009

Open To: All Interested Candidates

Position: Information Specialist

Location: Public Affairs Section (PAS), Pretoria

Opening: April 7, 2009

Closing: April 21, 2009 (Close of Business)

Work Hours: Full-Time; 40 hours/week

Salary: *Not-Ordinarily Resident: \$47,625 - \$62,140 per annum,
(Position Grade: FP-5) To be determined by Washington

*Ordinarily Resident FSN-10
Basic Salary: R283,141 – R324,325 per annum
Cash Benefits: R96,941 – R100,373 per annum
Non-cash benefits include medical, pension and others where applicable

SALARY LEVEL WILL BE BASED ON PRIOR JOB-RELATED EXPERIENCE.

NOTE: ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT APPLICANTS WHO ARE NOT SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZENS MUST HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND/OR RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION, AND SUBMIT COPIES WITH APPLICATION.

The U.S. Embassy in Pretoria is seeking an individual for the position of Information Specialist in the Public Affairs Section.

Basic Function of Position:

The position serves as the senior advisor to the Embassy Press Attaché and other American officers on matters pertaining to the South African media. The position initiates, plans and implements PAS information programs; finds and maintains high-level media contacts; and reports on South African media. The position works closely with PAS Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban Information sections arranging national media programs of broad scope and complexity.

Qualifications Required:

NOTE: ALL APPLICANTS MUST ADDRESS EACH SELECTION CRITERION DETAILED BELOW WITH SPECIFIC AND COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION SUPPORTING EACH ITEM. Items 1-6 are ALL REQUIRED

1. University Degree in liberal arts, political science, economics, journalism, communications, or international relations is required.
2. Minimum four years of progressively responsible experience in communications as a media, public relations professional, journalist or related experience is required.
3. Two years supervisory experience is required.
4. English and Afrikaans level IV (fluent) writing/reading/speaking is required.
5. Must be a news junkie, who follows local and international media closely, including print, radio, television and on line as well as thorough knowledge of South African media, political, economic, social and educational structures is required.
6. Ability to create, maintain and develop high-level contacts in the media and communications spheres.

Selection Process:

When qualified, Appointment-Eligible Family Members (AEFM) and individuals with U.S. Veterans preference will be given preference. Qualified AEFM applicants who also have U.S. Veterans preference will receive the highest preference.

Additional Selection Criteria:

1. Management will consider nepotism/conflict of interest, budget, section need for continuity and residency status in determining successful candidacy.
2. Employees currently on probationary status are not eligible to apply.
3. Currently employed AEFMs who hold a Family Member Appointment (FMA) are ineligible to apply for advertised positions within the first 90 calendar days of their employment.
4. Currently employed Not-Ordinarily Residents (NORs) hired under a Personal Services Agreement (PSA) are ineligible to apply for advertised positions within the first 90 calendar days of their employment unless currently hired into a position with a When Actually Employed (WAE) work schedule.

To Apply:

Interested applicants for this position must submit the following or the application will not be considered:

1. Applicants who claim EFM or MOH status must include in the cover letter accompanying their application that they are claiming EFM/MOH status, their present nationality, and name and employing section/agency of their sponsoring family member.
2. Application for U.S. Federal Employment (OF-612); or
3. A current resume or curriculum vitae that provides the same information as an OF-612; plus
4. Candidates who claim U.S. Veteran's preference must provide a copy of their DD-214 with their application.
5. Any other documentation (e.g., essays, certificates, awards, copies of degrees earned) that addresses the qualification requirements of the position as listed above.

SUBMIT APPLICATION VIA E-MAIL ONLY TO: HRrecruitment@state.gov, include in the Subject Line: **Application for Information Specialist Position.**

Point Of Contact:

Salome Tlhaabye

Telephone: (012) 431-4371

DEFINITIONS: (Please read the following definitions)

1. *Appointment-Eligible Family Member (AEFM): U.S. citizen spouse or U.S. citizen child who is at least 18 years of age, is on the travel orders of a U.S. citizen Foreign or Civil Service employee or military service member permanently assigned to Post and under Chief of Mission authority. AEFMs must also be resident at sponsoring employee's or uniformed service member's post of assignment abroad, approved safe-haven abroad, or alternate safe-haven abroad, and not be receiving a U.S. government annuity or pension based on a career in the Civil or Foreign Service.
2. *Eligible Family Member (EFM): Family Member at least age 18 years listed on the travel orders of a Foreign or Civil Service or uniformed service member permanently assigned to a US Foreign Service post under Chief of Mission Authority who do not meet the definition of AEFM above.
3. *Member of Household (MOH): 1) Person who has accompanied, but is not on the travel orders of a U.S. citizen Foreign or Civil Service employee or uniformed service member permanently assigned to or stationed at a U.S. Foreign Service post or establishment abroad; 2) has been declared by the sponsoring employee to the Chief of Mission as part of his/her household; and 3) will reside at Post with the employee.
4. *Ordinarily Resident (OR): A citizen of South Africa or a citizen of another country who has residency in South Africa and has the required work and/or residency permit for employment in South Africa.
5. *Not-Ordinarily Resident (NOR): A non-South African citizen (U.S. citizen or foreign national) who, although legally resident in South Africa, is not permanently resident. U.S. citizen EFMs and Members of Household of FS, GS, and military personnel officially assigned to Post are generally the only individuals who are NOR and are eligible to work under South African law. To be considered Not Ordinarily Resident, applicants must be eligible to work within the U.S. Mission without needing a work permit under South African law. They must also be in possession of a U.S. Social Security number and a U.S.-based bank account in their name. Those who do not meet all the requirements to be considered Not-Ordinarily Resident will be hired as Ordinarily Resident.

CLOSING DATE FOR THIS POSITION: April 21, 2009 (Close of Business)

The U.S. Mission in South Africa provides opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status or sexual orientation. The Department of State also strives to achieve equal employment opportunity in all personnel operations through continuing enhancement programs.

The EEO complaint procedure is not available to individuals who believe they have been denied equal opportunity based upon marital status or political affiliation. Individuals with such complaints should avail themselves of the appropriate grievance procedures, remedies for prohibited personnel practices, and/or courts for relief.